

MITCHEL NAMES 8 NEW EDUCATION BOARD MEMBERS

Balance of Power Held by Friends of Teacher- Mothers.

BAN PLACED ON FACTIONS BY MAYOR

Two Women Named—Old Members Ousted—Small- er Body Favored.

In appointing ten members of the Board of Education, two of whom were new, yesterday, Mayor Mitchell took a stand in favor of a smaller board. At the same time he wrote to President McAdams of the Board of Aldermen, chairman of the charter committee of the Board of Estimate, suggesting that they take up consideration of the educational chapter first, with the object of obtaining from the next Legislature "an act which will establish a small Board of Education," and the Mayor hoped, "a responsible executive in charge of the business side of school affairs."

Of the ten appointees to the board eight are new. One was appointed to take the place of James E. Sullivan, who died recently. Seven of the nine members whose terms expired on January 1 were not reappointed. They are Nicholas J. Barrett and Mrs. Ella W. Kramer, of Manhattan; the Rev. James M. Farrar, George C. Miller and John R. Thompson, of Brooklyn; Mrs. Alice Lee Post, of Queens, and Michael J. Sullivan, of The Bronx.

Although some of these had been in the board for many years, it was believed that it was not so much that they were of the old order in the board—because some of them were not—as the fact that the Mayor wanted his own appointees that caused him to make such a clean sweep.

Favor Teacher-Mothers.

The Mayor said nothing as to the attitude of the new members on the teacher-mother controversy, but inasmuch as he favors liberal dealing with such teachers, it is believed he picked persons who agreed with him in the matter. A majority of the new appointees, it was learned last night, favor the teacher-mother idea.

Ernest P. Elliott, one of the two old members of the board reappointed, voted against teacher-mothers. But he was not reappointed for a full term. The Mayor gave him the unexpected term of James E. Sullivan, which is three years. All the others were appointed for the full term of five years.

The only other member reappointed was Egerton L. Winthrop, jr., who was president of the board for several terms.

The appointments of the Mayor follow:

Manhattan.

Paul Fuller, lawyer, recently sent by President Wilson on a special mission to Mexico to report to him on the Mexican situation.

Franklin H. Giddings, educator and professor of sociology at Columbia University.

Raymond B. Fossick, formerly Commissioner of Accounts.

Egerton L. Winthrop, jr., lawyer, reappointed, member of the board since 1906.

E. F. Elliott, reappointed, manufacturer, actively interested in industrial education.

Brooklyn.

Louis Heaton Pink, lawyer, social worker, active in many public matters.

Mary E. Brewer, former president of the Women's Trade Union League, member State Factory Commission.

Walter H. Bennett, vice-president of the American Exchange National Bank.

The Bronx.

John St. Clair Mullan (Mrs. George V. Mullan), A. B., Barnard College, Columbia University, LL. B., New York University, 1901; member Local School Board 25; member of advisory board of Mayor Gaynor's Terminal Market Commission.

Queens.

John P. Benson, architect, Flushing; trustee Flushing Hospital, member of the Borough of Queens Committee on the City Club, student of public school methods and interested in modern methods of vocational training.

Mitchell Bars Factions.

In making his first appointments to the Board of Education the Mayor said he had sought to place all eyes to avoid building up factionalism in the board. There is no room for division, he said, "according to any line of cleavage, other than those of judgment in matters of education and school affairs."

"I have sought to name appointees of intelligence and ability. The Board of Education is the supervisory board in charge of the administration of the schools as a whole, but it must delegate to its subordinate experts the actual administration of school affairs. The delegation, however, must be on the part of the experts to the board and conformable to the experts will policies laid down by the board. A member of an executive board such as this must deal with experts, not arbitrarily but sympathetically, not perfunctorily but intelligently, not perfunctorily but co-operatively."

Mrs. Mitchell said to the new appointees, "I am in the hope that they would understand industrial and vocational training, and generally that they would modernize where there was need for it."

TWO BAFF SLAYERS DESCRIBED TO POLICE

Five Men, Who Saw Assassins Flee After Killing, Volunteer Testimony—Murderers Sped Away in Auto—One Had Pistol in Hand.

Definite information as to the appearance and number of men who killed Barnett Baff, the West Washington Market poultryman, has been obtained by detectives. This information is said to be the most important development in the case since the crime was committed.

The evidence was volunteered to Inspector Faurot by five bank clerks, who witnessed the escape of the gunmen after the murder. They are Samuel Goldstein, Frank Cummings, Charles Katz, Arthur Muschanko and one other, whose name was not divulged. All are employees of the Century Bank, Fifth av. and East 20th st.

The five men visited the West Washington Market on the night of the shooting to purchase Thanksgiving turkeys. They were standing in the store of Garlick & Danziger, in Thirtieth av., between Hewitt and Thompson sts., when they heard two shots fired, followed by outcries. They ran out of the place in time to see two men run to an automobile standing at the southeast end of the market, near Gansevoort st.

One of the men was short and wore a felt hat and dark clothes. He held a revolver in his hand and kept looking backward in evident fear of pursuit. He appeared to the five clerks to be a young Italian-American, sharp-featured and with pallid face.

Auto Awaited Murderers.

His companion was a tall, slender man, whose face was almost invisible under a low-drawn, black slouch hat. Both got into an automobile which was waiting close to the sidewalk, directly in front of a large piano truck. Immediately the chauffeur threw in the clutch and the car sped away.

The story told by the latest witnesses corresponds in almost every detail to that already related by the driver of the automobile truck, who is known to the police. It also corresponds in most details to a story obtained yesterday from a marketman in the neighborhood, who actually witnessed the killing. The name of this witness is concealed by the police, because of the man's apparent terror that he might be slain if his identity becomes known.

According to the detectives, this witness was standing on the sidewalk half a block distant when he heard the shots, and turned in time to see the victim crumple up on the ground and the two assassins dart away. The witness was so frightened that he took refuge in a saloon and did not observe the departure of the automobile.

Such descriptions of the automobile as have been obtained by the police tally closely. It is apparently a

Continued on page 4, column 3

ADMIRAL'S SON IN HOSPITAL ROMANCE

Dr. Osterhaus Weds Nurse Here of Whom Family Has Never Heard.

Dr. Karl Osterhaus, son of Rear Admiral Hugo Osterhaus, retired, was married in this city yesterday to Miss Elizabeth Oxley Currie, a nurse at Seaview Hospital, New Dorp, Staten Island.

The marriage was the culmination of a romance begun in the hospital, and was a complete surprise to Dr. Osterhaus's family and friends.

Admiral and Mrs. Osterhaus, when informed last night in Washington of the marriage of their son, expressed great astonishment and said that it was the first intimation they had received.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Currie, of Winslow, Nova Scotia. The ceremony was performed in City Hall by Alderman John J. Reardon. Dr. Osterhaus gave his address as 1930 Calvert st., Washington, and his age as thirty-three. His bride is twenty-four.

The first the Seaview Hospital knew of the wedding was a little before midnight, when Dr. Osterhaus and his bride arrived there, confessed they were married and stayed only long enough to pack some things and get away.

Mrs. Osterhaus, the night superintendent said, had been employed in the hospital for only two or three months. She was popular among the nurses.

From The Tribune Bureau.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Dr. Karl Osterhaus spent only two weeks at Seaview Hospital, his mother said to-night, and it is assumed here that his marriage was the result of a whirlwind courtship. Mrs. Osterhaus said she had never heard his son mention Miss Currie, and she did not know of the marriage's existence.

Beyond admitting his surprise, Admiral Osterhaus was uncommunicative, saying merely that he knew nothing whatever of the matter.

Dr. Osterhaus is unknown in Washington society, but Rear Admiral and Mrs. Osterhaus have been prominent figures in naval circles since he assumed command of the battleship USS Oregon in 1906.

Dr. Osterhaus's brother, Lieutenant Commander Osterhaus, U. S. N., has for several years been one of the leading figures in Washington society, and was a member of the President's staff at the White House.

DEATH CALLS DEAN OF BOWERY LODGERS

Andrew Comstock, Brilliant Lawyer Lived Forty Years in 15-Cent Room.

One of the strangest careers ever brought to the attention of the police terminated yesterday in a Bowery lodging house, when Andrew Comstock, aged seventy-one, was found dead in his bed after an illness of less than two days. He had not missed a night in the lodging house for forty years.

The dead man was a lawyer, of good family, and an acknowledged expert among the legal profession in all work requiring the use of legal phraseology. He was at one time the law partner of his brother, and more recently practiced patent law at 237 Broadway.

For the last two years he was employed as a clerk by a firm dealing in surgical instruments.

In May, 1874, he hired a room in the Arlington lodging house, at 212 Bowery, and never departed from it even during his most prosperous days. He gave 15 cents a night for the room, paying the money in advance every evening of the forty years. He left word nightly that he was to be called at 6 o'clock in the morning.

Early in the years of his Bowery residence he married, but did not alter his living arrangements. His wife and daughter lived in Jersey City, and it is believed they are now dead. Among his effects is a letter from his daughter, written twenty years ago.

Comstock, according to Robert Laidlaw, clerk at the lodging house, did not have a friend. Once a year or thereabouts, he said, he would have a caller on legal business. He received no mail at the lodging house, but called daily for mail at the office of Samuel Burrell, a lawyer, of 52 New st., by whom he was occasionally employed.

Tuesday morning, for the first time in forty years, Comstock did not rise at 6 o'clock. He complained of feeling ill, but went to his work later in the day. Yesterday morning he was worse, and the clerk urged him in vain to consult the calling of a physician. He was found dead in the afternoon.

His family is believed to have lived at one time at Comstock-on-the-Hudson, but the police have been unable to locate any relatives. His body was taken to the Morgue.

CUPID GETS TAX BURDEN Marriage Licenses Must Aid in Paying for War Woes.

It's the high cost of marrying now! A lot of pessimists may be ready to swear that the cost is already more than any man can afford, but they may be thankful that they wed before Europe elected to go to war. Looking around for something to hang a war tax on, Congress picked out marriage licenses. As a married man explained last night, one war suggested another.

The tax is 10 cents, but forty-nine fortunate bridegrooms escaped yesterday morning because the license bureau hadn't heard about the tax. At noon the notice arrived from Washington, and forty-one couples who arrived during the afternoon paid the cost of their licenses. Pity the poor Mormon!

MRS. EARLE ASKS DIVORCE

Decision Reserved on Application of Artist's Fourth Wife.

Justice Tompkins, of the Supreme Court, reserved decision yesterday on an application of Mrs. Helen Theodora Safford Earle for a divorce from her husband, Ferdinand Pinney Earle, after taking all the papers in the case at his chambers in New York.

Mrs. Earle testified before an English barrister appointed by Justice Mills to take her depositions. She said she was twenty-one years old when she met and was wed to Earle in Oxford, England, three years ago last June. She alleges she never knew he had three wives before, admitting, though, that "he told me that he had been married to three women, but that he had never been married to a fourth."

The Earles have a summer place at Monroe, Rockland County.

Imported Book Panetella. Full of aroma. Mild and sweet. Never better.—Adv.

ZAPATA AND VILLA RULE MEXICO CITY

First Authentic News from Capital, Isolated Since November 30.

ANGELES AND HIS TROOPS AT HAND

Carranza Bureau Says the Forces of Leaders Are in Battle.

Mexico City, Nov. 30 (via El Paso Junction, Dec. 2.—delayed by censor).—The arrival of the troops of General Francisco Villa from the north and the General Emiliano Zapata from the south has been followed by comparative calm in Mexico City, after one of the most trying weeks in its long history. For a time it was feared that the city, stripped of its defenders, would be given over to anarchy and looted, but prompt action of volunteer guards, reinforced by troops which arrived in the nick of time, put an end to rioting.

General Villa has given every guarantee that life and property will be safeguarded and thus far his promises have been carried out.

For one week Mexico City has been isolated from the outside world, so far as concerned the transmission of press dispatches. To-day communication was restored by a single wire stretching from the capital to El Paso.

When General Lucio Blanco left the city early on Tuesday morning, November 24, few of the inhabitants knew of his departure. When it became known that General Carranza had ordered General Obregon and General Blanco to leave the city with all their men and decreed disarmament and dissolution of the entire police force stores and banks were immediately closed and have so remained.

At 5 o'clock Tuesday huge mobs began forming in front of the National Palace. With cries of "To the arm stores! There are no police!" the crowds ran from the open plaza to the places designated on the Avenida 16th of September. Here the leaders forced the doors of one of the largest establishments selling arms and ammunition, and handed out weapons.

With these the rioters rushed down the streets, firing as they went.

The telephone lines connecting the capital with the suburbs had been working, and the Zapata forces on the outskirts were asked to come into the city. They responded promptly.

Meanwhile the students of the city had met and had decided to arm themselves and disperse the mobs. The crowds heard of these preparations and broke up into small parties.

When the Zapata forces entered Mexico City the students, armed with all sorts of weapons, from pistols of small calibre to old, muzzle-loading, double-barrelled shotguns, had taken possession of the principal streets. They were met by the mobs, who confined themselves to breaking into small stores along unfrequented streets.

Eduardo Iturbide, Governor of the Federal District, under the Carranza regime, led in the reorganization of the police force. He worked with Colonel Saldaña, of the Zapata forces, and by 10 o'clock that night 200 foot and 100 horse of these volunteers were patrolling the streets.

In the succeeding days more of Zapata's troops entered the capital, and a form of provisional government was brought into existence and general order was preserved.

General Zapata and his brother entered the city on Friday. The revolutionary leader was interviewed as he sat on the floor of the barracks in the center of the city, surrounded by a group of Indian admirers. He said he was working in accord with General Villa and was willing to abide by the decisions of the Aguascalientes convention. He left the capital on Sunday.

Zapata's soldiers, on learning of his presence in the city, began vollying firing in the great plaza which is skirted by the cathedral and the National and Municipal palaces. This resulted in the shutting up of all establishments, both public and private, until the cause of it was learned.

Eleven firemen were killed on Thursday night. These men answered an alarm in the factory district of San Antonio Abad. When the Zapata soldiers saw the engine and hook and ladder companies charging through the streets they mistook the apparatus for rapid-fire guns and artillery, and poured volley after volley into the defenseless fire fighters. Seven of the firemen were killed outright and four more died on the way to the hospital. Many of the firemen were wounded.

None of the banks in the capital are open and little business is being done, but the presence of the Villa forces under General Angeles has restored confidence, and bankers and merchants promise to resume business.

To-day the city is still controlled by the Zapata forces, but they say that this move on their part is only temporary.

Washington, Dec. 2.—Provisional President Guadalupe Ruiz will enter Mexico City to-morrow and be installed in the National Palace there, according to official telegrams to the State Department to-day.

FUNSTON'S WORK PRAISED President Pays Tribute to General and His Men.

Washington, Dec. 2.—President Wilson wrote to Secretary Garrison to-day paying tribute to the "efficiency, courage and discretion" of General Funston and his forces during the American occupation of Vera Cruz.

A similar letter was sent by Secretary Daniels, of the navy, to the commandant of the marine corps, Major General George Barnett, who served under General Funston for the appreciation of the President for the courage they displayed in the capture of the Mexican seaport.

AUSTRIAN TROOPS OCCUPY BELGRADE

Commander of 5th Army Corps Presents Serbian City to Emperor Francis Joseph on 66th Anniversary of His Reign.

Vienna (via London), Dec. 2.—Austrian troops to-day occupied Belgrade, Serbia, the capital of the kingdom until the government, in the early days of the war, was removed to Nish.

The occupation of the city was announced in the following telegram to Emperor Francis Joseph from General Frank, commander of the Fifth Army Corps:

"On the occasion of the sixty-sixth anniversary of your reign, permit me to lay at your feet the information that Belgrade was to-day occupied by the Fifth Army Corps."

The city of Belgrade has been under attack by the Austrians much of the time for the last four months. Early in August Austrian troops reached the city, but were unable to hold it. The advance of a new Austrian army through Northern Serbia during the last fortnight made the position of the Serbian troops in Belgrade a hazardous one, and early to-day it was reported from Sofia, Bulgaria, that the city had been evacuated.

Paris, Dec. 2.—Semi-official advices received to-day by the Havas Agency from Nish contain the admission that the Austrians have won further victories in Serbia. After a number of rear guard actions during the last few days, the Serbian troops were forced to fall back, on December 1, from the region around Oudjitz and Koceritch. The retreat, it is said, was made in good order.

Heavy fighting has occurred near Souvorov, where the Austrians concentrated large forces and succeeded in capturing two important points.

WAR BOGIE SEES PEACE PRICE LIST

Gardner, at the Economic Club, Warns City of Bom- bardment Peril.

War and peace met last night at the dinner of the Economic Club at the Hotel Astor. Representative Augustus P. Gardner, speaking in behalf of his bill for a Congressional inquiry into our national defenses, said that New York might yet see a foreign fleet lying a mile and a half beyond the range of our biggest guns and "playing masher shots into our coast defenses."

Dr. David Starr Jordan, Chancellor of Stanford University, California, said that the doctrine of preparing for war in time of peace was the most lamentable and abominable failure in all history. While not advocating peace at any price, said Dr. Jordan, he was in favor of consulting the price list.

"The first thing we want to know in this great crisis," said Mr. Gardner, "is, Where does the United States stand? and not, 'Who threw the first brick?' When we know that I'll trust the people of this nation to say whether they want us prepared to defend ourselves or not."

"Do you suppose that human nature has so changed that we can trust the future to arbitration? There are cobwebs in the great hall at The Hague; Turkey put the finishing touches on the Declaration of London when she came into the war."

"Do you suppose that we can substitute Sunday school signatures for coast defenses? Do you suppose that mass meetings and Chautauqua lectures take the place of dreadnaughts?"

"Can you arbitrate race hatred? Can you persuade the Russian to love the German? Can you persuade the San Francisco labor leader to love the Chinaman? Can you arbitrate slavery? Why, an attempt to do it brought on the Civil War. Can you arbitrate the Monroe Doctrine?"

"It's a mighty sound doctrine, but it's not a pacific doctrine. It's a first class doctrine, and it can't be upheld by a third class fleet."

Japan Troubles Reviewed.

The presence of several Japanese did not deter Mr. Gardner from referring to Pacific Coast troubles.

"We said to the bravest fighting race Asia has produced," he said, "You can't come in here! I'm in favor of excluding the yellow race, but this nation, if it is going to be a dog in the manger, must not be a toothless dog."

Failure to follow the well grounded plans laid down by the Navy Board when he first entered Congress had played havoc with the navy, declared Mr. Gardner. For 511 torpedo tubes there were only 58 long-range torpedoes. His correspondence showed, he said, that most people admitted our army was insufficient.

"You think you have some coast defenses here in New York," he said, "do you know that the biggest guns in your forts have a shorter range in a mile and a half than those in the new dreadnaughts laid down by Germany? A fleet could lie a mile and a half beyond the range of your guns and play masher shots into your forts."

"I have heard it said that the winner of this war would be the one who exhausted the other. I say to you that the winner of this war is going to be a pretty able citizen, and don't you forget it. And what's more, the nation that is friendly to-day is unfriendly to-morrow."

"We peace men," said Dr. Jordan, "have already scored a victory. There is not a man or a nation who will acknowledge responsibility for this war, and the war expenditures handicap."

"A great armament," he said, "will bring victory—perhaps. It will never bring peace. When everybody is loaded somebody explodes. When no one is loaded, no one explodes."

German Aid Lauds U. S.

Dr. Bernhard Dernburg, former German Secretary of State for the Colonies, who was the guest of honor, said:

Continued on page 2, column 2

BRITISH CAPTURE GENERAL DE WET

Rebel Career of South African Leader Comes to a Halt.

London, Dec. 3.—General Christian de Wet, leader of the rebellion in the Union of South Africa, has been captured, according to an official dispatch from Pretoria to Reuters's Telegram Company.

General Christian de Wet rose to fame as commander in chief of the Orange Free State forces in the South African war. Starting as a burgher in the Heilbron commando, he was appointed later commander at Lady Smith and was sent to relieve General Cronje as second in command. When Cronje surrendered de Wet was made commander in chief.

In the last days of this war he embarrassed the British army by his tactics, which for a long time made the pursuit of the remnant of his army, although twenty British columns were engaged in it. He was one of the signatories of the peace conference after the war and later was Minister of Agriculture in the Orange River Colony.

General de Wet at the outbreak of the war against the Boers, was a member of the Union of South Africa in fighting the Germans and took the field against the British forces.

General de Wet has several times been reported as meeting with reverses and once as having been wounded. One of his sons was killed in the fighting and two sons are said to have surrendered.

MAHAN APPROVED BRITISH TACTICS

Waiting Policy Correct for Navy, He Said—Sure Allies Would Win.

London, Dec. 3.—The Daily Telegraph's New York correspondent sends an interview which he had two months ago with the late Admiral Sir John Jellicoe on the naval aspects of the war, but which Rear Admiral Mahan forbade him to publish at the time because the Navy Department had enjoined silence on all naval officers.

As to the British fleet, Rear Admiral Mahan said emphatically:

"The British have done right, ably, and rightly. There was no other course which promised such good results. The people forget that war is largely economic, and the policy of England in virtually destroying the German overseas commerce, in protecting the ocean routes and in securing safe transport for her troops, was the very best possible. It would have been madness to have yielded to any rash impulse to pursue the Germans into their mine-locked harbors."

The correspondent asked the naval expert whether he shared Sir Percy Scott's reported view regarding torpedoes and battleships. He replied:

"By no means. It is a theory which war alone can test. Torpedoes have their usefulness, particularly in such conditions as the British and Germans found themselves at the beginning of this war, but with the development of the operations which we may expect, battleships will come into their own once again."

Rear Admiral Mahan was by no means convinced that a torpedo, except by the greatest good luck, could destroy a first class battleship.

As to the outcome of the present struggle he did not pause to think, but replied instantly: "There is only one result possible. Germany will be beaten and the Allies must win. My only regret is that Italy seems to have been sitting on the fence, unconscious, apparently, of the great role she might have played."

RUSSIANS TAKE TWO GENERALS CAPTIVE

Kief, Russia (via London), Dec. 2.—One hundred and twenty German and Austrian officers have been brought here as prisoners. Among them are two generals, six colonels and eighteen majors.

GERMAN ARMY SLIPS THROUGH GAP LEFT BY CZAR'S TARDY GENERAL

Rennenkampf Superseded in Command After Spoiling Grand Duke's Inclosing Movement in West Poland.

INVADERS MAKE ATTACK NEAR LODZ

Russians Repulse Midnight Assaults—Dash on Muscovite Left Fails—Kaiser's Partially Sur- rounded Centre Heavily Bombarded.

Reports agree that the fighting in the northern section of the Western Poland battle front is still violent. Petrograd and Berlin both claim successes, though it is admitted in the Russian capital that Grand Duke Nicholas did not fully succeed in his enveloping movement. General Rennenkampf, whose failure to reach his allotted position in time is said to have defeated the strategic plan, has been superseded in his command. While Berlin claims the Germans have taken 80,000 prisoners in the Poland fighting, the Russians declare the Czar's armies have taken still more. Five German towing steamers with war munitions have been captured at Plock, on the Vistula.

In Flanders the present fighting, of minor importance in itself, is preliminary to the general engagement which appears to be imminent. Strategists believe that the enemy's first homeward movement in force will be the signal for the Allies to take the offensive. In the Argonne and Alsace there have been engagements in which the Allies claim gains, but the fighting line has not been changed to any considerable extent. Bombardments are reported from several points in the line.

With only one vote in the negative, the Reichstag in Berlin voted a war credit of \$1,250,000,000. The Imperial Chancellor declared Germany could not fail to win, although the power of her enemies was not yet broken. He placed on Great Britain the chief responsibility for the war.

ALLIES PREPARE MENU FOR DINNER IN BERLIN

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Dec. 2.—Early in the war twenty cooks in one of the best known restaurants in London, which is frequented by thousands of Americans in the course of the year, resigned and went to the front, where they are now engaged cooking for the "Tommys."

"According to several officers who have returned from the firing line these cooks have one ambition, and that is to be given permission to cook the dinner for the victorious armies of the Allies on the day they march into Berlin. Even the menu has been tentatively drawn up, but what is causing some misgivings is to find some things which will be agreeable to all the elements of the allied armies."

Petrograd, Dec. 2.—General Rennenkampf, whose late arrival with his army at the appointed place on the battle front in Western Poland robbed the strategic scheme of Grand Duke Nicholas of its complete success a week ago, has been superseded in his command. As this army came into position a couple of days later than the time set, the ring of steel which should have hemmed in the German armies entirely could not be closed. A week's heavy fighting and the hurrying up of large reinforcements by the Germans followed.

No information as to causes of the failure of General Rennenkampf to reach the post assigned him at the proper time is available. It is known, however, that war under the Grand Duke Nicholas admits of no excuses. The soldiers say of their commander in chief that "he clips the generals a great deal closer than he clips us."

Attacks North of Lodz.

The following official statement given out to-night is noticeably lacking in detail:

"On December 1 there was a relative lull on all the fronts. In the region of Lodz the action continued, but with less intensity."

"Toward midnight the enemy, marching in compact columns, made a fierce attack against our positions to the north of Lodz, but were repulsed."

"In the region south of Cracow our troops have entered Veltkech (Wieliczka)."

The wording of the official dispatch makes it problematical whether the "fierce attack" was delivered by the Germans against the Russian right on the River Bzura, west of Lodz, or by a section of the partly isolated corps between Zgierz and Strykow. Both German positions are north of Lodz.

Germans Resume Offensive.

That the German army which, with the aid of reinforcements, succeeded in escaping from the ring that the Russians had forced around it as formed a new front and at some points has resumed the offensive is now generally admitted. The Germans' assertion that in this series of manoeuvres they made 80,000 prisoners, however, is denied. The Russians declare their own captures greatly exceed this number. The losses on both sides have been heavy. It is unofficially reported that the Russians are "nearly in Cracow."

The German attack on the Russian left with new forces brought up by train from the west, which developed Sunday, was delivered with great determination, and on Monday the fighting occupied the entire day. The Russians had been quite prepared for this outflanking movement on their left. Last week scouts reported the concentration of German troops in the direction of Kalisz, toward Sieradz. The numbers were reported to be considerable and Russian aviators ascertained they had come from Kalisz by train.

Russian Left Repulses Germans.

Sunday these new German forces crossed the Warta River at Sieradz, where two bridges carrying railway lines facilitated crossing for all arms, and advanced by rail and road toward Lask. The Russians did not oppose the advance until it had reached a convenient locality south of Sieradz, where the river Warta has a sharp bend. The terrain for about twelve miles forms a good natural defensive position, with ranges of hills, convenient clusters of heights whence a command of the surrounding country is secured. Parallel to this range of high ground there stretches a level, open strip several miles wide, along which runs the high road. Beyond that the country again becomes rugged.

**GERMAN STEAMER
SLIPS FROM PORT**

The President, Without Lights or Papers, Leaves Havana on Unknown Mission.

Havana, Dec. 2.—The Hamburg-American Line steamer President, which formerly plied among the West Indian Islands, but which has been lying in Havana Harbor since September 25, slipped out of port last night without lights or papers.

The destination of the President is unknown, but it is suspected that she intends to communicate with some German cruiser, although she is known to have on board a very small amount of coal and provisions.